

RCE 11700

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000,
provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application
filed on or after June 8, 1995.
See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number	09/687,401
Filing Date	10/13/2000
First Named Inventor	Manger
Group Art Unit	1743
Examiner Name	Soderquist
Attorney Docket Number	20174-002300US

RECEIVED
DEC 02 2003
TC 1700

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

- a. ☐ Previously submitted
 - i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on _____
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
 - ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
 - iii. ☐ Other _____
- b. ☒ Enclosed
 - i. ☒ Amendment/Reply
 - ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
 - iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
 - iv. ☐ Other _____

2. Miscellaneous

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)
- b. ☐ Other _____

3. Fees

The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 502508
 - i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) 11/28/2003 AWONDAF1 00000085 502508 09687401
 - ii. ☒ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17) 01 FC:2801 385.00 DA
 - iii. ☐ Other _____
- b. ☐ Check in the amount of \$ _____ enclosed
- c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

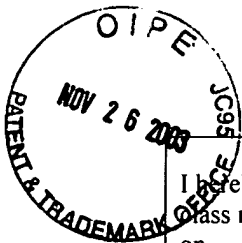
Name (Print/Type)	Gregory L Heinkel	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	44,755
Signature		Date	11/21/2003

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:

Name (Print/Type)	Gregory L Heinkel	Date	11/21/2003
Signature			

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND Fees and Completed Forms to the following address: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231.



I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Box Design, Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on

Name: Greg Heinkel Signed: [Signature] Date: 11/21/03

Appl. No. : 09/687,401 Confirmation No. 9512
Applicant : Manger, et al.
Filed : 10/13/2000
TC/AU : 1743
Examiner : Soderquist, Arlen
Docket No. : 020175-002300 US
Customer No. :

RECEIVED
DEC 02 2003
TC 1700

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office action of May 21, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows and consider the accompanying remarks:

Amendments to the Specification - NONE.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which being on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Drawings - NONE

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 13 of this paper.